Under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme under implementation all over the country including Assam, immunization, facilities for prevention of deaths due to acute respiratory infections and dehydration due to diarrhoea and essential newborn care are being provided. Towards improving the nutritional status of infants and children, promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices is being undertaken. Programmes for prophylaxis against Vitamin 'A' deficiency and iron deficiency anaemia are under implementation. To improve outreach of these services, several schemes including organization of RCH Campus, RCH Outreach Scheme, Dia Training Programme are under implementation.

CGHS Dispensaries in Orissa

1234. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CGHS cardholders are not getting proper treatment as there are not adequate dispensaries and recognized hospitals in all States;

(b) the total number of cardholders, dispensaries and recognized hospitals in Orissa; and

(c) whether the Kalinga Hospital, Bhubaneswar, ESI Hospitals namely, Bhubaneswar, Chourda, Rourkela, Rajgarh, Brjanagar are also included in CGHS list of recognized hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The CGHS cardholders get proper treatment in all the CGHS covered cities where primary health care facilities are provided through the CGHS dispensaries and CGHS laboratories. The secondary and tertiary health care facilities are provided to the beneficiaries through State/Central Government hospitals. Further, in most of the CGHS covered cities, private hospitals/diagnostic centres have been recognised under CGHS to enable the beneficiaries avail their services keeping in view the long waiting list in Government hospitals.

(b) and (c) Bhubaneswar is the only city in Orissa where CGHS facilities exist. There is one allopathic CGHS dispensary in Bhubaneswar which caters exclusively to the employees of AG's Office. The dispensary has 2113 card holders and the number of beneficiaries total 9427.

At present there are no private hospitals recognized under CGHS at Bhubaneswar. In response to the tenders floated by CGHS calling for applications from private hospitals for getting recognition under CGHS Bhubaneshwar, only Kalinga Hospital had responded but it did not agree to the ceiling rates offered by CGHS for various medical procedures/ tests/investigations and therefore, this hospital has not been granted recognition under CGHS.

ESI Hospitals do not ceter to CGHS beneficiaries.

Increase in Population

1235. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the population in India is still increasing at an alarming rate;

(b) if so, whether Government contemplate taking any harsh measures to control birth rate in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;

(d) the amount of money spent for the control of population during the last three years and whether result achieved commensurate with the money spent; and

(e) the amount of money earmarked for sterilization during current year and the number of sterilization operations anticipated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) As per census 2001, the average exponential growth rate of population in the country declined to 1.93% during 1990-01 as compared to 2.14% during 1981-1991. The current growth rate in population is contributed largely by three factors namely (i) Large population in the reproductive age (ii) Unmet needs of contraception and health services (iii) Felt need of higher fertility due to high IMB, son preference etc.

In keeping with the democratic tradition of the country, the family welfare programme is voluntary in nature and depends on informed choice of family planning methods best suited to individual acceptors. Past